

providing a ventilator having a control device, the control device including means for inputting data;

inputting, into the control device, data representing only a body length of a patient to be ventilated;

calculating, in the control device, at least one ventilation parameter, wherein said calculating step consists essentially of calculating the at least one ventilation parameter based upon the input body length of the patient; and

providing ventilation in accordance with the calculated at least one ventilation parameter.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein said ventilation parameter is tidal volume.

39. The method of claim 37, wherein said ventilation parameter is respiratory rate.

40. The method of claim 37, wherein said ventilation parameter is inspiratory flow rate.

41. The method of claim 37, wherein said ventilation parameter is I:E ratio.

42. The method of claim 37, wherein said ventilation parameter is inspiratory time.

43. The method of claim 37, wherein said ventilation parameter is minute ventilation.

44. The method of claim 37, wherein a plurality of ventilation parameters are calculated based upon the input body length of the patient.

45. The method of claim 44, wherein said ventilation parameters include tidal volume and respiratory rate.

46. The method of claim 44, wherein said ventilation parameters include tidal volume and inspiratory flow rate.

47. The method of claim 44, wherein said ventilation parameters include respiratory rate and inspiratory flow rate.

48. A method of operating a ventilator, comprising the steps of:  
providing a ventilator having a control device, the control device including means for inputting data;  
inputting, into the control device, data representing only a body length of a patient to be ventilated;  
calculating, in the control device, at least one ventilatory limit, wherein said calculating step consists essentially of calculating the at least one ventilatory limit based upon the input body length of the patient; and  
limiting at least one ventilation parameter in accordance with the calculated at least one ventilatory limit.

49. The method of claim 48, wherein said ventilatory limit is PSV pressure.

50. The method of claim 48, wherein said ventilatory limit is PCV pressure.

51. The method of claim 48, wherein said ventilatory limit is peak inspiratory pressure.

52. The method of claim 48, wherein said ventilatory limit is respiratory rate.

53. The method of claim 48, wherein said ventilatory limit is tidal volume.

54. The method of claim 48, wherein said ventilatory limit is I:E ratio.

55. The method of claim 48, wherein said ventilatory limit is inspiratory time.

56. The method of claim 48, further comprising the steps of:

calculating, in the control device, at least one ventilation parameter, wherein said calculating step consists essentially of calculating the at least one ventilation parameter

based upon the input body length of the patient; and

providing ventilation in accordance with the calculated at least one ventilation parameter.

57. The method of claim 56, wherein said ventilatory limit is PSV pressure.

58. The method of claim 56, wherein said ventilatory limit is PCV pressure.

59. The method of claim 56, wherein said ventilation parameter is tidal volume.

60. The method of claim 56, wherein said ventilation parameter is respiratory rate.

61. The method of claim 56, wherein said ventilation parameter is inspiratory flow rate.

62. The method of claim 56, wherein a plurality of ventilation parameters are calculated based upon the input body length of the patient.

63. The method of claim 62, wherein said ventilation parameters include tidal volume and respiratory rate.

64. The method of claim 63, wherein said ventilation parameters include tidal volume and inspiratory flow rate.

65. The method of claim 63, wherein said ventilation parameters include respiratory rate and inspiratory flow rate.

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66. A method of operating a ventilator, comprising the steps of:  
providing a ventilator having a control device, the control device including means for inputting data;  
inputting, into the control device, data representing only a body length of a patient to be ventilated;  
calculating, in the control device, at least one ventilation alarm setting, wherein said calculating step consists essentially of calculating the at least one ventilation alarm setting based upon the input body length of the patient; and  
setting at least one ventilation alarm in accordance with said at least one ventilation alarm setting.

67. The method of claim 66, further comprising the steps of:  
calculating, in the control device, at least one ventilation parameter based upon the input data; and  
providing ventilation in accordance with the calculated at least one ventilation parameter.

68. The method of claim 67, wherein said ventilation parameter is tidal volume.

69. The method of claim 67, wherein said ventilation parameter is respiratory rate.

70. The method of claim 67, wherein said ventilation parameter is inspiratory flow rate.

71. The method of claim 67, wherein a plurality of ventilation parameters are calculated based upon the input body length of the patient.

72. The method of claim 71, wherein said ventilation parameters include tidal volume and respiratory rate.

73. The method of claim 71, wherein said ventilation parameters include tidal volume and inspiratory flow rate.

74. The method of claim 71, wherein said ventilation parameters include respiratory rate and inspiratory flow rate.

75. The method of claim 67, further comprising the steps of:  
calculating, in the control device, at least one ventilatory limit, wherein said calculating step consists essentially of calculating the at least one ventilatory limit based upon the input body length of the patient; and

limiting at least one ventilation parameter in accordance with the calculated at least one ventilatory limit.

76. The method of claim 75, wherein said ventilatory limit is PSV pressure.

77. The method of claim 75, wherein said ventilatory limit is PCV pressure.

78. The method of claim 75, further comprising the steps of:  
calculating, in the control device, at least one ventilation parameter based upon the input data; and

providing ventilation in accordance with the calculated at least one ventilation parameter.

79. The method of claim 78, wherein said ventilation parameter is tidal volume.

80. The method of claim 78, wherein said ventilation parameter is respiratory rate.

81. The method of claim 78, wherein said ventilation parameter is inspiratory flow rate.

82. The method of claim 78, wherein a plurality of ventilation parameters are calculated based upon the input data.

83. The method of claim 82, wherein said ventilation parameters include tidal volume and respiratory rate.

84. The method of claim 82, wherein said ventilation parameters include tidal volume and inspiratory flow rate.

85. The method of claim 82, wherein said ventilation parameters include respiratory rate and inspiratory flow rate.

86. A method of operating a ventilator, comprising the steps of:  
providing a ventilator having a mechanism for adaptively setting a rate of airway pressure rise during pressure support ventilation;

providing a first ventilated breath with a first rate of rise of inspiratory pressure;  
providing a second ventilated breath with a second rate of rise of inspiratory pressure;

evaluating each of said ventilated breaths;

selecting the rate of rise that provides the desired pressure waveform; and

providing ventilation using said selected rate of rise.